

APR 02 2007

Attorney Docket No. 2004B020

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-64 are before the Examiner. Claims 56-63 have been withdrawn. New claim 64 is added in this response and amendment.

**ELECTION/RESTRICTION**

The Office Action restricts the claims of the pending Application to the following groups:

- I. Claims 1-55, drawn to a pipe and well tubing joint; and
- II. Claims 56-63, drawn to a process for manufacture of a multilayer pipe.

Group I is provisionally elected with traverse. The restriction requirement is submitted to be improper because restriction of the claims will lead to duplicative searching and prosecution. Withdrawal of the restriction of Group I (claims 1-55) and Group II (claims 56-63) is respectfully requested.

As provided in MPEP §821.04, Applicants respectfully reserve the right to rejoin non-elected claims in Group II (claims 56-63).

The Office Action further requires an election of species under 35 U.S.C. § 121. The Office Action states the Group I claims are directed to patentably distinct species comprising:

- a) a three component pipe (claims 1-31); and
- b) a four component pipe/well tubing joint (recited in independent claims 32 and 45 respectively).

The Office Action further states that none of the claims as originally filed are generic. Applicants have added new independent claim 64 in this response that is generic to both of the allegedly patentably distinct species identified in the Office Action. Applicants elect the four component pipe species of group b) above. This species reads on new independent claim 1, independent claims 32 and 45 and dependent claims 33-44 and 46-55.

Applicants reserve the right to rejoin claims 1-31 for consideration if generic claim 64 is found to be allowable.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully solicit a prompt notice of allowance. Applicants invite the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney if there are any issues outstanding which have not been presented to the Examiner's satisfaction.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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